GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2399
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2003
SALE OF CRUDE OIL TO CHINA AND OTHER COUNTRIES BY ONGC VIDESH
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC Videsh Limited has sold crude oil to China inspite of facing its shortages;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the Government propose to sell crude oil to other foreign countries in future as well; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) to (d) : ONGC-Videsh Limited (OVL) has been acquiring Participating Interest in exploration blocks and development fields abroad for equity oil and gas in order that the country`s supply of hydrocarbons is secure. It is not envisaged that all of the equity hydrocarbons may come to India at all times because that would depend upon optimising logistics, technical and commercial considerations, during normal circumstances that is when there is no threat to oil supplies or any security consideration.

OVL has informed that till date 9 cargoes (totaling 0.79 million metric tonne) of Nile Blend Crude oil have accrued as equity oil to it. Out of these, 8 cargoes were brought to India and sold to the public sector refineries, namely Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) and Mangalore Refinery ar Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL). One cargo was sold to a Chinese buyer since these refineries did not take it.